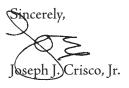
#### Dear Neighbor,

I am deeply honored that you have expressed your confidence in my ability, caring, and accomplishments, and have given me the privilege of serving you once again in the state Senate. I look forward to continuing our discussion of issues before the General Assembly now that the 2005 legislative session is underway.

One of my top priorities concerns the many residents in our state who remain without health care coverage, and the increasing number of individuals and businesses for whom coverage has become unaffordable. I also believe that we must take steps to address the growing increase in obesity among children, a condition that has become a major public health concern. These are some of the issues that the Insurance Committee, which I co-chair, has begun to address.

Please take a moment to read about these and other matters covered in this newsletter. As always, I invite your comments, ideas and opinions.



#### STATE SENATOR



Legislative Office Building, Room 2800 Hartford, CT 06106-1591

## Joe Crisco

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Representing the 17th District: Ansonia, Beacon Falls, Bethany, Derby, Hamden, Naugatuck & Woodbridge

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# JOE CRISCO Your State Senator

### 2005 LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

I participated in a panel discussion on childhood obesity. The discussion was held as part of a program sponsored by the Commission on Children, "Weighing in on Childhood Obesity."

### Enhancing the Public Safety: Traffic Light for Route 67

In response to letters and calls from local residents, I urged the Department of Transportation (DOT) to take immediate action and reconsider signalization at the intersection of Route 67 and Bear Hill and Acorn Hill roads, the site of numerous accidents. I applaud the DOT for acting quickly and agreeing to install a traffic signal and other signage.

### Nearly \$1 Million State Reimbursement to Woodbridge

Under a program offered by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Woodbridge recently was awarded nearly \$1 million in reimbursement for remediation of a site contaminated by leaking underground storage tanks. I am pleased to have worked with the DEP on behalf of the town.

#### Insurance

As Senate chairman of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee, I am planning a number of initiatives that include:

- The Nutmeg Partnership—a health care coverage program partnering the state with individuals, with businesses, and with other entities so as to broaden health care coverage in the state
- Reimbursement for physicians, fairness in contracts with HMOs and health insurers, and reduced paperwork

We also plan to look into questionable insurance practices and medical malpractice liability insurance.

### **And more:**

- Restricted Stem Cell Research: I proposed legislation that would provide grants to hospitals, medical schools and companies for stem cell research—an avenue that offers hope to individuals suffering from some of the most debilitating, and currently incurable, diseases.
- Reversing Child Obesity: My school vending machine bill would prohibit each public elementary and middle school from selling soda, candy or any other food that has minimal nutritional value from a vending machine within the school.

### Constituents' Corner

I recently intervened with the Department of Social Services so that a critically-ill constituent could obtain life-supporting prescription drugs. Helping my constituents is the most rewarding aspect of my job as state senator. I invite you to call my office if you feel that I can be of assistance to you.